

Identifying and Classifying Subordinate Clauses A

- 17d.** An **adjective clause** is a subordinate clause that modifies a noun or a pronoun.
- 17e.** A **noun clause** is a subordinate clause that is used as a noun.
- 17f.** An **adverb clause** is a subordinate clause that modifies a verb, an adjective, or an adverb.
- 17g.** Part of a clause may be left out when its meaning can be clearly understood from the context of the sentence. Such a clause is called an **elliptical clause**.

EXAMPLES This house, **which is near the park**, is a great deal! [adjective clause]
 The front porch is **what I like about the house**. [noun clause]
 Don't forget to bring the insurance papers **when we meet**. [adverb clause]
 Their essay is not due any sooner **than ours [is]**. [elliptical clause]

EXERCISE In each of the following sentences, underline the subordinate clause. Then, identify the type of clause by writing one of the following abbreviations above it: *ADJ* for *adjective clause*, *ADV* for *adverb clause*, or *N* for *noun clause*. Then, also write *E* over each elliptical clause.

Example 1. ^{ADV-E} As spoken, the words of that nonsense poem sounded hilarious.

1. Because mastering computer technology is one of the biggest challenges, schools must include computer training in the curriculum.
2. The referees assessed our opponents more minutes in the penalty box than us.
3. My grandmother, who is a former dancer, advised my sister and me in improvisational dance.
4. My politician grandfather often brags that he could "wheel a vote out of an opponent."
5. Are you aware of the underlying political philosophy that this newspaper editor supports?
6. When the convention was held, feminists revolted against rigid gender roles.
7. My great-grandmother, who was one of the early suffragettes, lectured on the need for a federal law giving women the vote.
8. While complaining about vacuuming the living room rug, my kid brother tripped over the cord.
9. When organizing our foods-around-the-world party, please ask for paper plates and plastic silverware.
10. Whoever explains the riddle will win the prize.